THE

# CHILDREN

IN

# THE WOOD.







Embellished with 7 Wood Cuts.

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# THE

# Children in the Wood -000-

Androgus married the fair Eugenia. Not long after this joyful event, the parents of Billy and Eliza

were both seized with a severe illness at the same time, Pisarius, (the father) sent for his brother Androgus, entrusted him year to his son, and £300 a year to his daughter, to be paid on the day of her

4 Children in
with the care of his dear
children, leaving £600 a



marriage; but if they died, the whole was to go rents strictly charged him to bring them up with

care, which he faithfully promised to do, assuring them he would be

claration, when they both expired together.

a parent to them. Scarcely had he finished his de-

The uncle now ordered the funeral followed them to the igrave, and took the children home

6 Children in to his house, where he



at first behaved kindly to them. But alas! every tender impression soon wore off his mind, and

he resolved to make away with them, which

Walking by the side of

in manner:

a thick wood one morning, he overheard two ruffians discoursing of a murder and robbery they liad committed. He asked them if they would

had committed: He asked them if they would go and drink with him: they consented, and went with him to an alchouse, where he addressed them as follows:

"I know (by what 1



course in the wood ) you are very honest fellows, and would do any thing rather than starve; I would willingly employ you to your advantage." "With all my heart

"what is it?" Finding them ready to do any thing, he promised to reward them with a hundred pounds, if they would murder two children. They immediately

As his wife was very fond of the children, and could hardly bear them out of her sight, it was

agreed (in order to prevent her suspicions) that the ruffians were to be dressed like waggoners. He told his wife he had received a letter from a relation in London, requesting that he might have the children; and

saying that they should be educated with some cousins, she at length

Children in

10

The men thus dressed, came for the children, received the reward, and set off on their journey.



The little ones prattled innocently on the road—talked of their play things and what pleasure they should have with their cousins in London.

They went on till they reached a great wood

12 Children in when one of the ruffians

sirous not to kill them, but to leave them in the wood and get of with the money. The other would not consent to the proposal, but insisted that they should be killed. After a great many words:

was touched with their innocence, and was kle-

would not consent to the proposal, but insisted that they should be killed. After a great many words, they drew their sharps swords, and began fightening. The villain who wished to murder these innocent babes, was run-



killed on the spot. The other burried him in a pit, and went away, leaving the children behind; telling them he was only going to get them some food. They sat down on

the grass to wait for his return, where they passed away some hours in telling tittle stories and

night approached, they began to grow pensive and melancholy, and to cry bitterly both with cold and hunger. At length they cried themselves to

tales to one another. As

and hunger. At length they cried themselves to sleep, In the morning they wandered up and down the wood, and endeavoured to find their way out but all in vain,

In their wandering about, they fed upon blackberries, dew-berries, and



they could find: in this shocking manner they subsisted three days. Sometimes they made

16

little nosegavs of wild flowers, and at other times sung little innocent songs Having eat all the berries they could find, they grew faint, and laid themselves down on a green bank, and with grief and hunger died in each other's arms; their bodies were afterwards found covered over with leaves.

Thus perished these two pretty children, through the treachery of an unnatural uncle.

R. Burdekin, Printer, Pavement, York.